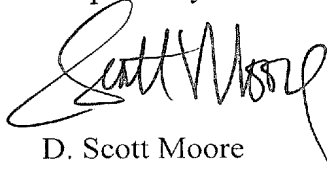


REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the thorough examination of the present application as evidenced by the Final Office Action mailed February 1, 2008 (hereinafter "Final Action") and the Notice of Panel Decision from Pre-Appeal Brief Review mailed June 20, 2008 (hereinafter "Panel Decision"). Applicant especially appreciates the indication that dependent Claims 15, 36, and 57 recite patentable subject matter. To advance prosecution and to facilitate an early allowance of the present application, Applicant has amended independent Claim 1 to include the recitations of allowable Claim 15, amended independent Claim 22 to include the recitations of allowable Claim 36, and amended independent Claim 43 to include the recitations of allowable Claim 57. Dependent Claims 15, 36, and 57 have been canceled in light of the amendments to independent Claims 1, 22, and 43. Rejected Claims 20, 21, 41, 42, 62, and 63 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the above-entitled application is now in condition for allowance. Entry of this amendment and favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (919) 854-1400.

Respectfully submitted,



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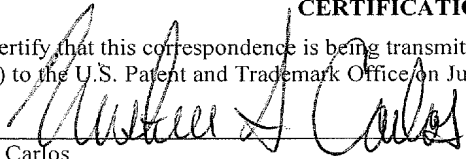
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CERTIFICATION OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4) to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on July 21, 2008.


Kirsten S. Carlos